

COMBINED DISTRICTS OF
WARMINSTER & WESTBURY
(Urban and Rural)



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1949

JOSEPH REYNOLDS, M.C.,
L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Health Department,
Rural District Council Offices,
Craven House,
Warminster,
Wiltshire.

Telephone : Warminster 199.

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Health Department,
Craven House,
Warminster, Wilts.

To the Chairman and Members of the Warminster and Westbury District Councils.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1949 as instructed by the Ministry of Health Circular 2/50, dated 25th January 1950.

I have pleasure in stating my appreciation of the help and co-operation given by the members of the Councils and the staff.

I am.

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH REYNOLDS.

September, 1950.

Warminster and Westbury Rural District Council

Area of the District	...	...	...	...	...	...	87.096	(87,096)
Estimated Civilian Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,180	(13,090)
Number of inhabited houses including huts at 31st December, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,941	(3,909)
Average number of persons per house	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.34	(3.35)
Estimated product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£233 3 6	(£252)

(1948 figures in brackets).

Chairman of the Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. P. B. PEPLER, J.P.
						and from May, 1949,	Mr. C. R. ALGAR, J.P.

Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee	Mr. L. A. KING-CHURCH, J.P.
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Senior Sanitary Inspector (Part time)	W. F. C. MERRETT, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.I.B.E.
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Additional Sanitary Inspector (Part time)	W. G. S. KNEEBONE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H., & H.
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Council Offices,

Craven House.

Warminster.

Telephone: Warminster 199.

PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

The area is agricultural and contains 412 Milk Producing Premises. There are also Agricultural Machine Works, Milk Depot, Leather Tannery, Brickworks, Malting and Grist Mills and various W.D. properties.

Outworkers are chiefly employed in Glove making.

VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) Live Births.

							<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	116	119	235
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	110	113	223
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	12

LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 civilian population — 17.8.

.. England and Wales ... — 16.7

PREVIOUS YEARS—	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
District	19.1	19.9	20.5	17.2	18.4
England & Wales	17.9	20.5	19.1	16.1	17.6

(b) Still Births.

							<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1

(c) Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

							Male	Female	Total
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2

INFANT MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 live births	—	30
„ „ England & Wales	—	32

(d) Deaths.

Male 97: Female 90: Total 187.

DEATH RATE per 1,000 civilian population	—	14.2
„ „ England & Wales	—	11.7

PREVIOUS YEARS	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
District	11.0	12.9	14.0	15.3	13.2
England & Wales ...	10.8	12.0	11.5	11.4	11.6

(e) Causes of Death.

							Male	Female	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
10.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infantile encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	11	5	16
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	16	14	30
19.	Heart diseases	...	...	...	...	...	33	32	65
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	7
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
29.	Puerperal and Post abortive sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature births	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injury, infant disorders	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
34.	Road traffic accident	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	6	11	17
TOTALS							97	90	187

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following notifiable Infectious Diseases among civilians were recorded:—

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	18	27	59	26	5	24	16	5	13	6	—	—	199
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	20	4	—	32
Lobar Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Malaria	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery (Amoebic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
New cases notified in 1949 (including transfers in).	3	4	0	1
Deaths	3	1		
Transferred out	3	1		
Cases on Register at 31.12.49	25	14	8	11

CLINICS.

The following Clinics serve the District:—

Infant Welfare: Trowbridge—The Halve. Every Tuesday, 2 p.m.
 Westbury—Congregational Chapel Room. 1st and 3rd Thursday, 2 p.m.
 Warminster—Methodist Schoolroom, George Street. 1st and 3rd Friday, 2 p.m.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation is undertaken by the County Council, and Medical Officers visited the schools in outlying villages at specific dates for this purpose. Many took advantage of the regular Clinics established in Warminster and Westbury.

The Warminster Clinic is held on the 4th Friday of every month at 2 p.m. at The Methodist Schoolroom, George Street.

The Westbury Clinic is held at the Laverton Institute, Westbury on the 4th Thursday of every month at 2.30 p.m.

At the 31st December 1949, the immunisation position for the District was given:—

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1949.	Total No. of Children who were given a reinforcing injection.
155	220

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1949								
Age at 31.12.49 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1949	1 1948	2 1947	3 1946	4 1945	5—9 1940—1944	10—14 1935—1939	Total Under 15
Warminster & Westbury R.D.	13	119	165	165	128	836	820	2246

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year no action was taken under the 1948 National Assistance Act.

WATER SUPPLIES.

(A) North East Regional Scheme.

The laying of distribution mains to extend the supply of the Luccombe source began on June 7th, 1949 and satisfactory progress had been made by the end of the year. It proved possible to discontinue taking supplies from the Castle Hill and Church Steps sources. An immediate improvement in quality became evident on bacteriological analysis and further improvement is obvious at the time of writing since a new chlorinator has been brought into use at Luccombe.

The villages of Edington, East Coulston, Bulkington, Keevil, Hinton and West Ashton will receive a piped wholesome water during 1950 from the Luccombe source.

(B) South West Regional Scheme, Codford.

Work began to instal Chlorinating Mechanism in December, 1949.

Arrangements were concluded satisfactorily with the Boyton and Fonthill Estates and work put in hand for them to construct a new sectional steel plate service reservoir at Corton Down to provide additional storage capacity for water pumped from the Codford Borehole.

Improvement in the quality of water supplied to the villages of Sherrington and Boyton from this supply can clearly be seen.

The War Department supply at Codford will soon be superseded by a supply from the Codford Borehole and this new supply will be extended during 1950 to the villages of Upton Lovell and Corton.

(C) Bacteriological Reports.

(A) North East Region—The Luccombe supply is chlorinated.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Source of the Sample</i>	<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>Bactl: Count per Colonies 1ml</i>	<i>Est. Coli Aerogenes Count per 100ml</i>	<i>Est. Faecal B. Coli Count per 100ml</i>
26.1.49	Council Houses, Steeple Ashton	Luccombe	Nil	Nil	Nil
28.3.49	do.	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	1	Nil	Nil
16.11.49	"Hillside," Castle Hill, Bratton	do.	1	50	Nil
16.11.49	Hussey's Farm, Lower Road, Bratton	do.	13	25	Nil
11.1.49	Castle Hill Reservoir	Castle Hill Borehole	22	17	8
26.1.49	Castle Hill Rising Main.	do.	5	160	Nil
26.1.49	Castle Hill Reservoir	do.	39	30	Nil
30.3.49	do.	do.	15	20	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	88	180 +	7
8.11.49	do.	do.	21	50	5

26.1.49	New Council Houses, Bratton	Church Steps, Bratton, Spring	Nil	Nil	Nil
30.3.49	do.	do.	23	3	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	308	180 +	13
25.7.49	Hand Pump, Bratton Old Council Houses	Shallow well	155	5	Nil
24.1.49	No. 1 Hand Pump, Eding- ton Council Houses	Shallow well	1	8	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	400	50	Nil
24.1.49	No. 2 Hand Pump, Eding- ton Council Houses	do.	3	160	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	1000	180 +	8
12.1.49	Standpipe, East Coulston	R.D.C. Shallow well	10	90	Nil
28.3.49	do.	do.	9	11	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	9	160	Nil
12.1.49	do.	Baynton House Spring	20	160	Nil
28.3.49	do.	do.	2	25	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	520	180 +	8
21.2.49	Hand Pump, Keevil Council Houses	Shallow well	56	50	3
26.10.49	Hand Pump, West Ashton	Shallow well	4	50	3
(b) Trowbridge, Melksham and District Water Board. The supply is satisfactory both in regard to quantity and quality. All supplies are chlorinated.					
3.5.49	16, The Tynings, North Bradley	Borehole, Biss Bottom, Upton Scudamore	1	Nil	Nil
11.5.49	18, The Crescent. Southwick	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.7.49	16, The Circle, Southwick	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.1.49	New Council Houses, Heywood	do	1	Nil	Nil
20.3.49	do.	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.7.49	do	do.	4	Nil	Nil
31.1.49	Council Houses, Upton Scudamore	do.	3	13	Nil
20.4.49	do.	do.	Nil	5	Nil
(c) Westbury & Dilton Marsh Joint Water Board. Satisfactory both as to quality and quantity.					
2.5.49	2, Penleigh Terrace. Dilton Marsh	Wellhead, Westbury	Nil	3	Nil
4.7.49	The Ham Post Office	do.	1	Nil	Nil
(d) South West Regional Scheme—Codford.					
26.4.49	Corton Down Reservoir	Codford Borehole	Nil	17	Nil
1.2.49	Standpipe Boyton	Spring, Sherrington Mill	3	25	3
20.4.49	do.	do.	302	180 +	4
26.4.49	do.	Codford Borehole	2	8	3
20.7.49	do.	do.	21	25	Nil
17.5.49	Carters Cottage, Sherrington	do.	6	50	13
27.7.49	do.	do.	4	Nil	Nil
20.7.49	Codford Borehole . .	Codford Borehole	18	50	3
3.8.49	Tap in Pumphouse, Codford	do.	2	Nil	Nil
17.5.49	6, The Grove, Codford	Codford Borehole War Department	23	180 +	Nil
12.7.49	10, The Grove, Codford	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.7.49	Tap in Ablutions, Bury Camp, Codford	do.	23	90	Nil
9.8.49	do.	do.	1	17	Nil
23.11.49	do.	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
23.11.49	Standpipe, Hillside Camp, Codford	do.	1	Nil	Nil
Codford W. W.					

12.1.49	Standpipe opposite The Carrier's Arms, Stockton		1	3	Nil	Stockton Estate Supply
20.4.49	do.		1	Nil	Nil	
20.7.49	do.		3	3	Nil	
12.1.49	Standpipe, Bapton End, Stockton		1	13	Nil	Yeatman Biggs Private Supply
20.4.49	do.		Nil	5	Nil	
20.7.49	do.		4	5	Nil	
12.1.49	Forum Café, Heytesbury		7	17	Nil	Heytesbury Estate Supply
26.4.49	do.		Nil	5	Nil	
12.7.49	New Council Houses, Heytesbury		160	13	Nil	
20.7.49	Council Houses, Tytherington		22	25	Nil	
8.2.49	Standpipe by The Woolpack Inn, Sutton Veny	Swancombe Springs, Shearwater, War Department Supply	2	8	Nil	
5.4.49	do.	do.	1	Nil	Nil	
19.7.49	do.	do.	150	5	Nil	
7.9.49	do.	do.	5	50	Nil	
9.2.49	52, Longbridge Deverill	Swancombe Springs, Shearwater, Longleat Estate Supply	3	17	Nil	
25.4.49	do.	do.	1	5	Nil	
22.6.49	2, Council Houses, Longbridge Deverill	do.	32	14	Nil	
7.9.49	83, Sand Street, Longbridge Deverill	do.	3	25	3	
8.11.49	do.	do.	6	90	3	
28.11.49	4, Council Houses, Longbridge Deverill	do.	—	160	Nil	
16.8.49	Swancombe Reservoir, Shearwater	do.	101	180 +	17	
22.6.49	Hand pump at Council Houses, Hill Deverill	Shallow Well	1000 +	25	Nil	
22.6.49	6, Council Houses, Monkton Deverill	Borehole, Council House Monkton Deverill	Nil	Nil	Nil	
(e) War Department Supply to Chitterne.						
4.7.49	Standpipe, Shrewton Road, Chitterne	Borehole, Shrewton Road, War Department Supply	Nil	Nil	Nil	
30.5.49	Standpipe, New Council Houses, Chitterne	Middle Barn Borehole, War Department Supply, Chitterne	Nil	Nil	Nil	
(f) Chapmanslade.						
1.2.49	New Council Houses, Chapmanslade	Springs, Divers Bridge, Corsley	2	Nil	Nil	
20.4.49	do.	do.	1	3	Nil	
25.7.49	do.	do.	800	17	7	
5.5.49	Chapmanslade reservoir	do.	Nil	13	Nil	

(g) Corsley.

This village is supplied from two sources. The supply provided by the Rural District Council is satisfactory both bacteriologically and chemically but the other supply derived from Longleat Estate sources is acid in character and as such is liable to exert plumbo solvent action. The Analyst gives us as his opinion that it is most improbable that the quantity of lead should reach a significant level in this water, but the possibility of variations in the quantity of lead present at different times in the day must be borne in mind.

The present Rural District Supply is insufficient to provide the whole of the village, so a remedy was sought by co-operation with the Warminster Urban District Council asking for a supply from Warminster to the villages of Chapmanslade and Corsley. This, unfortunately, proved impossible so it will be necessary to extend a supply from the Codford Borehole to this region as soon as practicable.

2.2.49	Council Houses, Corsley	Longhedge Springs, Longleat Estate and Springs, Divers Bridge	3	Nil	Nil
20.4.49	do.	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.7.49	do.	do.	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.11.49	do.	do.	Nil	10	Nil

(h) **Horningsham.**

This supply is provided by the Longleat Estate from a source at Horningsham. Quantity proved sufficient, but the quality is suspect by reason of the acid character of the water and chemical samples will be taken during 1950.

9.2.49	Horningsham School	Springs, Shearwater	2	50	Nil
20.4.49	do.	do.	Nil	90	Nil

(D) **Chemical Reports.**

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 10.8.49 from Pumping Station Codford.

Physical Characters—Slightly cloudy.

CHEMICAL.										Parts per 100,000	
Reaction	..	..	..	..	..	..	Alkaline p.H.	..	7.1		
Saline and free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.08		
Chlorides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.4		
Nitrogenas nitrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.25		
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.8		
(a) Temporary...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.8		
(b) Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.0		
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Nitrites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		

OPINION.

There was no odour detectable in the sample submitted and analysis shows complete absence of vegetable or organic matter the presence of which might give rise to odour.

Date: 12.8.49.

J. G. SELWYN,
Pathologist.

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 3.11.49. From Tap under Kitchen sink, 5, Council Houses, Corsley.

Physical Characters—Very good.

CHEMICAL										Parts per 100,000	
Reaction	Acid	p.H. 6.3 (after boiling)	p.H.	=					more than	8.4	
Saline and free ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.018		
Chlorides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.6		
Nitrogenas Nitrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.4		
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.8		
(a) Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.2		
(b) Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.6		
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Nitrites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil		

OPINION:

Chemical examination shows no evidence of pollution, but the water contains a very considerable excess of carbonic acid and as such would be expected to have metal solvent properties. Piping this supply would probably result in corrosion.

Date: 7.11.49.

W. KENNARD,
Pathologist.

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 30.11.49 from tap under kitchen sink at No. 11, Council Houses, Corsley. (Longleat Estate Supply).

Physical Characters—

CHEMICAL

	Parts per 100,000									
Reaction	Acid p.H.	6.3								
Saline and free Ammonia								
Organic (or albuminoid'') ammonia								
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.								
Chlorides								
Nitrogenas nitrates								
Total Hardness								
(a) Temporary								
(b) Permanent								
Poisonous Metals	Iron = Nil.	Lead = very faint trace, less than 0.001								
Nitrites								
Microscopical examination of the Sediment								

OPINION:

Chemical examination: There is less than 1/1400th. grain of lead per gallon in this water which is the first sample drawn in the morning through a short length of lead piping. Some authorities state even a trace of lead can be dangerous when imbibed over a long period, but it is usually accepted that the standard of safety is 0.01 parts per 100,000. The possibility of variations in the quantity of lead present at different times in the day, must be borne in mind, but, that it should reach a significant level in this water, is most improbable.

Date: 3.12.49.

H. W. H. K.,
Pathologist.

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 27.10.49 from the Pump at West Ashton (Public Supply).

Physical Characters—Yellowish, cloudy with small deposit.

CHEMICAL

	Parts per 100,000									
Reaction	Acid p.H. 6.8	After boiling p.H. 7.4								
Saline and free Ammonia	0.101	
Organic (or 'albuminoid') ammonia	0.001	
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.	0.053	
Chlorides	6.2	
Nitrogenas nitrates	Very faint trace only.	
Total Hardness	42.4	
(a) Temporary	23.2	
(b) Permanent	19.2	
Poisonous Metals	(on filtered water)	Nil	
Nitrites	Nil	
Microscopical examination of the Sediment.	Iron rust and fungi.									

OPINION:

Chemical examination: This water contains a considerable quantity of carbonic acid and as such would, if piped, tend to have plumbo-solvent properties. The presence of iron is converting the nitrates to free ammonia. A fungus is present, but in view of the low albuminoid ammonia content, this probably originates in the pump.

Date: 29.10.49.

H. W. H. K.,
Pathologist.

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 14.7.49 from the standpipe at Heytesbury Estate Yard, Heytesbury.

Physical Characters—

*

CHEMICAL:

								Parts per 100,000
Reaction	Alkaline p.H.	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.1
Saline and free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.02
Chlorides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.2
Nitrogenas nitrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.7
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.0
(a) Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.5
(b) Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.5
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Nitrites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

OPINION:

Chemical examination shows no evidence of pollution.

Date: 18.7.49.

H. W. H. K.,

Pathologist.

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 29.11.49 from the kitchen tap of No. 4, Council House, Longbridge Deverill.

Physical Characters—Excellent.

CHEMICAL:

								Parts per 100,000
Reaction	Neutral p.H. 7.0, after boiling	Alkaline p.H. more than 8.4	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Saline and free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.001
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.003
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.8
Chlorides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.4
Nitrogenas nitrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.2
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.9
(a) Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.3
(b) Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Nitrites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

OPINION:

Chemical examination: This water is neither acid nor as soft as the adjacent supply at Shearwater. The natural reservoir may give a large surface area with subsequent loss of carbonic acid gas. It would be of interest to know the chemical composition of the water prior to entering the reservoir, if this can be obtained.

Date: 1.12.49.

H. W. H. K.,

Pathologist.

Number of Dwelling Houses and Number of Population Supplied direct from Public Water Mains

Parish	No. of Dwellinghouses	Approximate No. of Population
Bratton	53	204
Bishopstrow	46	180
Chapmanslade	122	400
Dilton Marsh	370	1400
Heywood	131	500
North Bradley	275	857
Steeple Ashton	192	604
Sutton Veny	125	508
Upton Scudamore	45	180
Southwick	162	648

Number of Dwelling Houses and Number of Population Supplied by means of Standpipes from Public Mains

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Dwellinghouses</i>	<i>Approximate No. of Population</i>
Chapmanslade	1	4
Chitterne	15	50
Sutton Veny	30	100
Upton Scudamore ..	2	8

There are many other houses in the various Parishes supplied with water from private water mains.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1949.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

(a) The Council is responsible for its own works, the majority of which belong to council houses in the following Parishes:—

Bratton (2)	Heytesbury (2)	Monkton Deverill
Bulkington (2)	Horningsham	North Bradley (5)
Chapmanslade (3)	Heywood (3)	Stockton
Chitterne (2)	Hill Deverill	Steeple Ashton (3)
Codford (2)	Hindon	Southwick (2)
Corsley (2)	Keevil	Storridge (The Ham)
Dilton Marsh	Longbridge Deverill	Upton Scudamore (2)
Edington (3)	Sutton Veny	West Ashton

(b) New Sewage Disposal Works Installed During the Year.

Bulkington	—	New Council Houses.
Chitterne	—	New Council Houses.
Codford	—	New Council Houses at The Grove.
Edington	—	New Council Houses.
Heytesbury	—	New Council Houses.
Sutton Veny	—	New Council Houses.

(c)

The considerable number of sewage disposal plants in this District is on the increase. They vary in size and construction from septic tanks with overflows, treated on the broad irrigation system, to small sewage works with settling tanks, filters and humus chambers; effluents in these cases discharge to various sewer ditches and streams.

The labour available for the maintenance of these plants together with a large number of sewer ditches comprises two men. It will, therefore, be realised that these plants cannot have the necessary attention to maintain them in perfect working order as they are scattered throughout the whole of the Rural District and the time taken in travelling to the various sites is considerable.

The Hampshire Cleansing Service regularly cleanses most of these settlement tanks at specified intervals and although this is carried out it cannot be said that the sewerage system in this Area is adequate as the greater part of the District is without sewerage schemes of any description.

In 1939, Regional Schemes were submitted to cover the District. The most urgent of these were Southwick, North Bradley and Dilton Marsh. The matter is still an urgent one and no satisfactory solution can be arrived at until such schemes are in operation.

Due to complaints regarding bad effluents discharging into a stream at North Bradley, the Council again considered the possibility of taking the sewage from a section of the North Bradley dwellings into the Trowbridge sewer, but being heavily committed with the North East Regional water supply scheme it was decided to refer the whole matter of the North Bradley sewerage back so that a scheme on a more embracing scale could be considered.

HOUSING.

(a) New Housing Schemes.

Council houses were completed during the year in the Parishes of Codford, Heytesbury, Chitterne, Bulkington, Edington and Sutton Veny. Building operations were in hand in the Parishes of Sutton Veny, Keevil, Chapmanslade, Corton, Heywood, Bratton, Steeple Ashton and Southwick.

The Council Housing Estates at Heytesbury (8), Edington (4) and Bulkington (2) were completed and all houses let to suitable tenants.

(b) Camps and Requisitioned Properties.

The Council still retain fourteen requisitioned houses, thirty-eight huts on sites numbers 4, 8 and 10, Steeple Ashton, eleven huts at Bishopstrow Camp and twenty-one at Bury Camp, Codford.

(c) Housing Survey.

The Rural Housing Survey continued throughout the year, but progress was still slow due to pressure of work caused through the extension of water supplies. The total number of houses surveyed up to the 31st December 1949 was 719.

The standard of housing in the district is poor the majority of houses now in occupation are sub-standard and many of these are only fit for demolition. Most of the houses surveyed [redacted] relegated to Category V (Unfit for human habitation) [redacted] are still occupied.

It must also be borne in mind that seventy huts now occupied on five camp sites have only a very limited life, although a certain degree of conversion and repair work has been carried out from time to time. In view of the limited life of these huts and the cost of repairs which must increase with the years of occupation it is suggested that persons living in these huts, being fit and proper persons to be Council tenants, should be given absolute priority together with those Council house applicants without homes of their own for rehousing in permanent dwellings. The huts on vacation should be demolished and not relet.

(d) Future Programmes.

The Council adopted the following programme for new houses:—

Corsley	4	Codford	2	East Conlston	2	West Ashton	4
---------	---	---------	---	---------------	---	-------------	---

We still have a waiting list of 363 applicants for council houses; 220 of these applicants already live in separate homes.

From these figures it appears that almost two-thirds of the applicants desire to occupy roomier and better accommodation. The construction of new council houses will not by itself solve the housing problem as the Post War house with its many labour saving devices and general roominess is tending to create a new housing problem. A reconditioning programme is essential and a proper balance must be secured between new construction and the reconditioning of existing sub-standard houses.

The 1949 Housing Act when brought into operation could make a very large contribution towards the solution of the housing problem and all cottages found to be in need of reconditioning should then be dealt with.

Since all repair work will be subject to Building Licences it is suggested that representations should be made to the Ministry of Health securing the removal from Licensing Restrictions of all work carried out on dwellings in respect of which Improvements Grants are approved.

SALVAGE AND REFUSE.

A salvage collecting scheme for the whole of the District was in operation. The collection varied from weekly to monthly.

Salvage was tipped at Penleigh and Heytesbury.

Applications were received from several Parishes asking the Council to inaugurate a refuse collection scheme. The Council considered the scheme but decided that the expense was not warranted. Further consideration is being given to this matter.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Routine farm inspections continued during part of the year until September, when the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 came into operation, transferring the supervision of milk production to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as from the 1st October.

Local Authorities, however, still retain their responsibilities in the field of milk distribution and I feel there is much closer supervisory work to be done in this sphere to ensure that absolutely clean milk is sold to every consumer.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

An Operator, whose duties are shared with the Warminster Urban District and Westbury Urban District, is employed by this Council. The control methods recommended by the Ministry of Food were closely followed.

The major infestations were found at The Kennels, Tytherington, West Hill, Heytesbury and Penleigh Refuse Tips; all were dealt with satisfactorily during the year. The majority of minor infestations were caused by the keeping of poultry in unsatisfactory conditions in small gardens.

<i>Premises Inspected</i>	<i>Premises Treated</i>	<i>Bodies Found</i>	<i>Estimated Kill</i>
87	28	157	785

CAMPING SITES.

There were no Licensed Camping Sites in the district but eight Licences were issued to individual persons to station and use moveable dwellings.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The following is a summary of the inspections and visits made during 1949:

Milk and Dairies Order

	<i>Total</i>
No. of Milk Producers—257 Ordinary: 79 Accredited; 76 T.T.	412
No. of new Registrations	1
No. of new Retailers with premises inside the District 61	
No. of Retailers with premises outside the District 2	
	63
No. of Accredited Dealers	17
No. of T.T. Dealers	15
No. of Pasteurised Dealers	4
No. of Inspections made during the year for the purpose of the Milk & Dairies Order	41
No. of Preliminary Notices served	40
No. of Premises improved	9

Factories Act

No. of Factories on Register	34
No. of Re-inspections	22
No. of New Registrations	6
No. of Preliminary Notices served	6
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	5

Public Health Acts

No. of Complaints received	60
No. of inspections made	110
No. of Nuisances abated	54

Public Health and Housing Acts

No. of Primary inspections made in connection with housing and nuisances	77
No. of re-inspections made in connection with the above	51
No. of Informal Notices served requiring abatement of nuisances and housing repairs	31
No. of Informal Notices complied with at the end of the year	8
No. of Statutory Notices served	Nil

Meat and Food Inspections

No. of Butchers' shops inspected	4
No. of re-inspections	26
No. of Premises inspected retailing food stuffs	30
No. of Cafes inspected	4
No. of Bakehouses inspected	7
No. of Ice-cream Premises inspected	12
No. of Ice-Cream Registrations	12

Miscellaneous goods condemned during 1949-

<i>Description of Article</i>		<i>Reason for Condemnation</i>
2 lbs. Australian Lamb Trimmings	—	Mouldy.
40 lbs. home killed beef	..	Internal decomposition.
15 lbs. home killed beef trimmings	—	Internal decomposition.
9½ lbs. home killed beef	—	Internal decomposition.
4½ gallons salad dressing	—	Soured.
8.214 lbs. dried peas	—	Infested with bruchies pisi.

New Drainage Installations

No. of installations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
No. of inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	124
No. passed as satisfactory		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57

Warminster Urban District Council

Area of District	5.651 acres	(5.651)
Estimated Civilian Population	6,990	(6,845)
Number of Inhabited Houses, including Huts at 31st December, 1949	1,880	(1,862)
Average Number of Persons per house	3.72	(3.68)
Estimated product of a Penny Rate	£218	(£209)

(1948 figures in brackets)

Chairman of the Council	MR. R. J. KING, J.P.
Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee	MR. H. N. DEWEY, J.P.
Senior Sanitary Inspector (Part time)	W. PARKS, M.I.Mun.E., C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector (Part time)	F. J. REILLY, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.I.
Council Offices. 36, Market Place, Warminster. Telephone: Warminster 393.	

VITAL STATISTICS. (Figures for 1948 in brackets).

(a) Live Births.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total.. .. .	77	70	147
Legitimate	75	66	141
Illegitimate	2	4	6

LIVE BIRTH RATE	21.0
„ „ „ England & Wales	16.7

PREVIOUS YEARS:—	1948	1947	1946	1945
Warminster Urban District.. .. .	21.3	24.8	22.0	18.4
England & Wales	17.9	20.5	19.1	16.1

(b) Still Births.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	—	1	1
Illegitimate	1	—	1

(c) Infant Mortality Rate.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total	3	1	4 (6)
Legitimate	3	1	4

INFANT MORTALITY RATE—Warminster Urban District	27.0	(11.1)
„ „ „ England & Wales	32.0	(31.0)

(d) Deaths.

Male 42: Female 46: Total 88.

DEATH RATE Per 1,000 civilian population Warminster U.D. —	12.6
„ „ „ England & Wales	11.7

PREVIOUS YEARS—	1948	1947
Warminster Urban District	10.1	12.3
England & Wales	10.8	12.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	1	1	2
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	1
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
8. Syphilitic diseases	—	—	—
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	1	—	1
12. Acute infantile encaphalitis	—	—	—
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (m) uterus (f)	—	—	—
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—	2
15. Cancer of Breast	—	1	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	3	5	8
17. Diabetes	—	1	1
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	5	4	9
19. Heart Diseases	8	22	30
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	3	3	6
21. Bronchitis	1	—	1
22. Pneumonia	2	5	7
23. Other Respiratory diseases	—	—	—
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—	—
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis	—	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	1	—	1
28. Nephritis	—	1	1
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	—	—
31. Premature Births	2	—	2
32. Congenital malformation, birth injury, infant disorders	1	—	1
33. Suicide	—	—	—
34. Road traffic accident	1	—	1
35. Other violent causes	2	1	3
36. All other causes	8	2	10
TOTALS	42	46	88

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISEASE	Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec.	Total
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	7	5	2	5	2	—	1	—	—	25
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Measles	—	—	5	1	4	1	4	2	4	—	—	—	21
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	1	—	—	10
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Encephalitis (Measles)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
													67

DIPHtheria Immunization.

A clinic is held regularly on the fourth Friday in each month at 2 p.m. at the Methodist School Room, George Street, under the aegis of the County Council. All medical practitioners in the district are willing to immunize any children under their general care. Parents are requested to have immunization completed before the child reaches the age of one year and to present the child for the first injection when it reaches the age of nine months.

During 1949 the number of children in Warminster who completed a full course of primary immunization was 80.

Number of Children who had completed a Full Course of Immunization at any time up to 31.12.49.

Age at 31.12.49					Born in Year	Number
Under 1	..	..	..	..	1949	8
	1 yr.	..	..	..	1948	102
	2 yr.	..	..	..	1947	100
	3 yr.	..	..	..	1946	88
	4 yr.	..	..	..	1945	64
	5 to 9 yr.	..	..	..	1940—1944	439
	10 to 14 yr.	..	..	..	1935—1939	405
Total under 15						1206

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases notified during 1949 (including transfers in):

Pulmonary					Non-Pulmonary				
Males	..	..	..	4	Males	..	..	..	3
Females	..	..	..	6	Females	....	..	..	0

Three pulmonary cases, all female, were transferred in.

Deaths from Tuberculosis in 1949

Pulmonary					Non-Pulmonary				
Males	..	..	..	1	Males	..	..	..	0
Females	....	..	..	0	Females	..	..	..	0

Number of Tuberculosis Cases on Register up to 31.12.49.

Pulmonary					Non-Pulmonary				
Males	..	..	..	20	Males	..	..	..	13
Females	..	..	..	20	Females	..	..	..	9

CLINICS.

The following County Council Clinics serve the district:—

- (a) **Ante natal:**
At the Maternity Hospitals concerned.
Consultant Clinics are at Trowbridge for patients referred by their own doctor or midwife.
- (b) **Infant Welfare:**
On the first and third Fridays of each month at the Methodist Chapel, George Street, at 2.30 p.m.
- (c) **Orthopaedic:**
At Salisbury, Trowbridge and Devizes by invitation.
- (d) **Ear, Nose and Throat:**
By invitation.
- (e) **Tuberculosis:**
Trowbridge, every Wednesday at 10 a.m.
Salisbury, every Tuesday at 10 a.m.
(Children at 2 p.m.). By invitation.

(f) Venereal Diseases:

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
R.U.H. (Bath):	Friday, 5 p.m. Saturday, 5 p.m.	Tuesday, 5 p.m. Friday, 2.30 p.m.
Salisbury Infirmary:	Tuesday, 11.30 a.m. Friday, 6 p.m.	Wednesday, 6 p.m. Saturday, 11.30 a.m.
Trowbridge (The Halve):	Thursday, 5 p.m.	Tuesday, 5 p.m.

WATER.

Until July 1949 the water supply to the district was derived solely from the wells adjacent to Shearwater by way of the pumping station at Crockerton. In July 1949 a second supply was introduced into part of the township from the Westbury Road borehole which feeds to the Arn Hill Reservoir. My tenure of office is now sufficient to enable me to give an opinion on the Shearwater supply, based on information found in the files, personal survey and study of analyses.

Shearwater Supply.

The first reference in the files to the supply in February 1939 is from the consulting engineer with regard to "copies of analyses which are certainly somewhat disturbing. I think you should instal a chloronone to safeguard your position." The consultant reported again in April 1939 "It seems clear that water from the Shearwater Lake percolates into this (Keeper's) well and although nothing can be done to stop it, it probably explains the reason for B. Coli. in 1.0 c.c." Doctor Thornton, the consultant bacteriologist, reported in August 1939.

- "(1) Analyses have shewn that the bulk water is by no means pure and required treatment before the water can be put into service.
 - (2) Topographical conditions in the vicinity of the springs strongly suggest that pollution is likely to occur; these conditions are likely to deteriorate rather than the reverse.
 - (3) The unfavourable condition of the water is further increased by its acid qualities."
- With these conclusions the consulting engineer generally agreed.

The tables (infra) shew that these undesirable conditions still persist. The raw water is from time to time heavily polluted and a breakdown of chlorination coincident with such pollution could cause an epidemic. The acid reaction of the water due to a high carbonic acid content makes it quite unfit to be put into public supply without first undergoing treatment. Machinery for the purpose of such treatment i.e. the addition of soda-ash, has been installed at Crockerton but must be unreliable or neglected for the acid water persists in the town mains. This of course leads to corrosion of mains, cooking implements and particularly lead piping. Lead has not, so far, been found in any samples taken but the possibility of lead poisoning cannot be overlooked.

The Consultant Bacteriologist (Doctor Thornton) advanced a strong opinion in 1939 that the Council "would be well advised to seriously consider scrapping the existing service." I am in firm agreement that the sources should be abandoned but as a supply main from Codford will shortly be fed to the district adjoining Crockerton I urge that advantage be taken of this. The Codford supply is wholesome and abundant and could be used to fill the present collecting chamber at Crockerton. There would be no dislocation of supplies and the present pumping machinery could be used to fill the existing reservoir at Botany. This measure would not prove expensive and I beg that it be considered.

The acid reaction of the Shearwater Supply in Terms of Hydrogen Ion Concentration

	<i>Jersey Hill</i>	<i>Keepers</i>	<i>Holy</i>
24.1.49	6.2	6.0	6.14
14.2.49	6.0	6.0	6.0
11.7.49	6.1	6.3	6.2
7.11.49	6.2	6.5	6.3

Bacteriological Analyses.

		<i>Bact., Colonies Count per 1ml</i>	<i>Estimated Coli Aerogenes per 100ml</i>	<i>Estimated Faecal B. Coli per 100ml</i>
<i>Untreated Water</i>				
14.2.49	Jersey	5	0	0
14.2.49	Keepers	49	90	5
14.2.49	Holy	0	25	0
7.3.49	Jersey	0	0	0
7.3.49	Keepers	5	25	0
7.3.49	Holy	3	13	0
11.7.49	Jersey	11	0	0
11.7.49	Keepers	?	180 +	0
11.7.49	Holy	0	25	0
7.11.49	Jersey	2	180 +	20
7.11.49	Keepers	112	180 +	3
7.11.49	Holy	4	180 +	0
5.12.49	Jersey	2	50	0
5.12.49	Keepers	26	90	0
5.12.49	Holy	4	90	0
<i>Treated Shearwater Supply</i>				
3.1.49	Bell and Crown	2	0	0
17.1.49	do.	1	0	0
31.1.49	do.	0	0	0
4.2.49	do.	0	0	0
7.3.49	do.	0	0	0
14.3.49	do.	0	3	0
26.3.49	do.	0	3	0
11.4.49	do.	0	3	0
25.4.49	do.	2	5	0
9.5.49	do.	0	3	0
23.5.49	do.	1	11	0
13.6.49	do.	3	8	0
27.6.49	do.	0	0	0
11.7.49	Chapel Street School	0	3	0
25.7.49	2, Chapel Street	1	0	0
15.8.49	Bell & Crown	0	13	0
22.8.49	5, Fore Street	0	11	0
1.9.49	Bell & Crown	4	0	0
19.9.49	2, Chapel Street	0	3	0
17.10.49	Bell & Crown	0	0	0
14.11.49	14, West Parade	1	13	0
14.11.49	Town Hall	1	5	0
28.11.49	6, West Parade	1	8	3
5.12.49	8, West Parade	3	13	0
12.12.49	52, West Parade	3	0	0
<i>Arn Hill Supply</i>				
13.6.49	Arn Hill Reservoir	0	0	0
27.6.49	do.	0	0	0
11.7.49	12, High Street	0	0	0
25.7.49	8, George Street	6	0	0
29.8.49	Arn Hill Reservoir	0	0	0
14.9.49	do.	0	0	0
7.11.49	9, Westbury Road	0	0	0
5.12.49	Portway Dairy	8	0	0

These bacteriological examinations relating to the Shearwater Supply shew that on fifteen occasions the presumptive coliform count was greater than three (3), a suspicious water by Ministry of Health standards, on five occasions greater than ten (10), an unsatisfactory water by the same standards. Moreover, efficient chlorination should yield a water free from coliform organisms in 100ml, a standard which is not being attained.

The Arn Hill supply is bacteriologically "Highly satisfactory" by Ministry of Health standards.

HOUSING.

The lack of suitable living accommodation remains acute. The condition is aggravated by the three factors, a rising population, evacuees who have learned to prefer a more bucolic existence and the presence of a large and still growing military establishment.

It is obvious that when every application for a Council House carries a medical certificate that all are equally preferred and discrimination on medical grounds becomes impossible. In this connection thanks are due to the County Tuberculosis Officer who continues to supply me with certificates regarding infective cases of tuberculosis. The Council has never hesitated to grant priority to such cases, priority which is necessary if the continued spread of tuberculosis is to be checked. I feel sure that the active policy being pursued by the Council, in so far as permitted by central ordinance, will soon cause an improvement of housing conditions in the Urban District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year no action was taken under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1949

Water Supply.

Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from Public Water Mains:

(a) Direct to the houses, 1827; (b) by means of standpipes, 50.

Number of Population supplied from Public Water Mains:

(a) Direct to the houses, 6828; (b) by standpipes, 150.

Sewage Disposal.

Very good progress was made during the year with the construction of the new Sewage Disposal Works, and at the close of the year this contract was about half-completed. There is some unavoidable difficulty in maintaining the present method of land irrigation whilst this constructional work is in progress owing to the area of ground which has now had to be given up for the site of the new works, but despite this difficulty a reasonably good effluent was maintained having regard to all the circumstances.

A further instalment of the work on sewer reconstruction was satisfactorily completed, new sewers being laid and all adjacent properties connected in Brook Street and Chapel Street.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse disposal by semi-controlled tipping at the Furneaux Lane site continues with reasonably satisfactory results. With the failing of the market for waste paper the salvage of this material was abandoned, and this enabled more labour to be devoted to the maintenance of the tip, and resulted in a substantial improvement in its condition. The nature of the refuse in this district does not, however, lend itself very well to controlled-tipping methods owing to the high proportion of paper, empty cans and organic material in relation to the quantity of ashes. This difficulty may be offset to some extent when coal is in more abundant supply. Close watch was maintained and all necessary steps taken to counter infestation of the tip by rats and other pests.

Disinfestation.

The Rodent Officer continues to be employed jointly by this District and the Westbury Urban and Warminster & Westbury Rural District Councils, and the recent increase in disinfestation work suggests that, for adequate attention to this work, better arrangements might have to be made in the near future. Meanwhile the best attention possible is being given to all serious cases of infestation, in which satisfactory results have been achieved.

Sanitary Inspections.

An analysis of the Sanitary Inspections made during the year is attached.

Housing (including Council Houses and Flats, etc.)	..	..	1082
Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	39
Factories and Workshops	..	..	60
Cowsheds and Dairies	..	..	67
Ice Cream Manufacture	..	..	24
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	18
Bakehouses	..	..	31
Meat Shops and Stores...	..	..	42
Offensive Trades	..	..	19
Schools .. .. .	..	..	7
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	35
Rat Infestation	..	..	41
Infectious Diseases	..	..	22
Water Supplies	..	..	163
Sewage Disposal	..	..	124
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	68
Works in Progress	..	..	306
Meat and other Foods	..	..	68
Miscellaneous	..	..	108

Notices Served

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Public Health Acts	27	—	27
Housing Acts	18	—	18
Other Statutes	26	—	26
	—	—	—
	69	—	69
Outstanding, December, 1948	3	—	—
	—	—	—
	72	—	—
Complied with	67	—	—
Outstanding, December, 1949	5	—	—

Foodstuffs Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Weight</i>			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>st.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Carcass meat, Poultry and Game
Cheese and Butter
Fish
Bacon
Fruits, cereals and flour
Canned, bottled and packeted foods
Total approximate weight condemned	1	18	0	5

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948

<i>Number of Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Number of Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
43	60	Nil	Nil

Number of Cases in which Defects were Found

	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred by H. M. Inspector</i>
Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences	2	1	3

The Number of Outworkers in August, all engaged in the Cleaning and Washing, Making, etc., of Wearing Apparel, was 210.

Long Term Planning.

Consideration of the redevelopment of a portion of the central built-up area of the town was continued and a site for further public conveniences selected provisionally.

Much time was spent in negotiations in connection with further housing sites, but final decisions had not been reached at the end of the year.

Westbury Urban District Council

Area of the District	..	..	..	..	..	3,686	(3,686)
Estimated Civilian Population	..	..	..	..	..	5,130	(4,950)
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1940	..	..	..	..	..	1,564	(1,454)
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	..	..	3.27	(3.4)
Estimated product of a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£28.911	(£25.608)

(1948 figures in brackets)

Chairman of the Council Mr. N. J. SCULL, J.P.

Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee .. Mr. A. E. HAYWARD, J.P.

Sanitary Inspector (Part time) S. H. PROPHET, A.F.S., A.R.S.I.

Council Offices,

Laverton Institute,

Westbury.

Telephone: Westbury 31.

VITAL STATISTICS. (Figures for 1948 in brackets).

(a) Live Births.

					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	41	43	84	(90)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	1	1	(4)
					41	44	85	(94)

LIVE BIRTH RATE for Westbury 16.6

LIVE BIRTH RATE England and Wales .. 16.7

PREVIOUS YEARS—

		1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
District	.. ..	19.0	19.9	19.8	15.2	23.1
England and Wales		17.9	20.5	19.1	16.1	17.6

(b) Still Births.

					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
Total	..	..	..	..	1	1	2

(c) Infant Mortality.

					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	3	0	3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
Total	..	..	..	..	3	0	3

INFANT MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 Live Births)—

District	.. ..	35.3	(10.5)
England and Wales	.. ..	32.0	(34.0)

(d) Deaths (see List of Causes of Death):

Male 30; Female 30; Total 60 (51).

DEATH RATE per 1,000 Population—

		1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
District	.. ..	11.7	10.3	14.9	12.6	11.3	13.8
England and Wales	.. ..	11.7	10.8	12.0	11.5	11.4	11.6

CAUSES OF DEATH. (Registrar General):

	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>	
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	1	1	2	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Myelitis and Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (male) uterus (female)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cancer of Breast	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cancer of all other sites	1	1	2	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	5	5	10	—	—	—
Heart Diseases	12	17	29	—	—	—
Other diseases of Circulatory System	1	1	2	—	—	—
Bronchitis	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1	—	—	—
Other Respiratory diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	1	1	—	—	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	1	—	1	—	—	—
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal and Post Abortion Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Maternal causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Births	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases ..	3	—	3	—	—	—
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—
Road Traffic Accident	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other violent causes	1	—	1	—	—	—
All other causes	3	2	5	—	—	—
	30	30	60	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Notifications:

The following Diseases were notified among Civilians during 1949:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	3
Measles	5	64	166	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	243
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
													249

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

A Clinic is held on the fourth Thursday in each month at 2.30 p.m. at the Laverton Institute, Westbury. Parents are now asked to attend when the child is 8—9 months old so that immunity may be developed before the child reaches the age of one year. School children also attend this clinic for reinforcing injections.

71 children completed a full course of primary immunization during the year: 86 children were given reinforcing injections.

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunization at any time up to 31.12.49.								
Age at 31.12.49 i.e. born in year Westbury U.D.	Under 1 1949	1 1948	2 1947	3 1946	4 1945	5—9 1940—1944	10—14 1935—1939	Total Under 15
	5	66	90	68	50	279	260	818

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31.12.49:

<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis</i>				<i>Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis</i>			
Male	23	Female	17	Total	40	Male	23
						Female	20
						Total	43

New cases notified during the year:

<i>Pulmonary</i>				<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>			
Male	2	Female	2	Total	4	Male	1
						Female	1
						Total	2

CLINICS.

The following Clinics serve the District:—

1. Ante-natal (specialist) at Trowbridge. Cases referred by own doctor or midwife.
2. Infant Welfare: Congregational School Room, Westbury: on the first and third Thursdays of the month 2 p.m.
3. Diphtheria Immunization: Laverton Institute, on fourth Thursday of every month. 2.30 p.m.
4. Ear, Nose and Throat: by invitation from County Council.
5. Eye: by invitation from the County Council.
6. Orthopaedic: at Trowbridge, invitation from County Council.
7. Tuberculosis: at Trowbridge: Cases referred by own Doctor or by invitation from County Council.
8. Cancer and Rheumatism: at Bristol and Bath, by arrangement with County Council.

HOUSING

Oldfield Park. Site for 140 houses. 104 of these have been completed to the end of 1949.

WATER SUPPLY.

Treatment of the water obtained from Wellhead and the Bratton Road source has assured a highly satisfactory supply which falls into Class 1 according to the Standards laid down by the Ministry of Health. The Bratton Road source is not to be regarded as satisfactory and could not be supplied without danger if the chlorinating mechanism broke down. In this connection I must inform the Council that the reservoir capacity is insufficient as it barely affords a full day's supply to a growing population. Steps should be taken to increase the storage capacity.

The Bitham supply is most unsatisfactory and dangerous. The Council has already been advised that action must be taken which will force owners of houses using this supply to connect their houses to the treated supply in the town mains. The Masonic supply has given better bacteriological analyses than in 1948 but falls into the same category as the Bitham Supply. Neither of these waters can be regarded as safe because they are exposed to pollution and it is not practicable to chlorinate at the source. To wait until further gross pollution occurs before taking action is to court disaster. In the meantime the residents in the properties concerned have been advised to boil all water used for drinking and other domestic purposes and should continue to do so.

Report of bacteriological analyses:—

(a) Untreated:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Source of Samples</i>	<i>Bacteriological Colony Count per 1ml</i>	<i>Estimated Coli Aerogenes Count per 100ml</i>	<i>Estimated Faecal B. Coli Count per 10ml</i>
Wellhead U.D. Source.				
28.3.49	No. 1 Borehole	157	—	—
28.3.49	No. 2 Borehole	5	—	—
28.3.49	No. 3 Borehole	4	5	—
30.6.49	No. 2 Borehole	3	—	—
30.6.49	No. 3 Borehole	1	No Report	No Report
5.7.49	No. 1 Borehole	1	3	—
5.7.49	Well	—	—	—
22.11.49	No. 3 Borehole	5	90	—
28.11.49	No. 3 Borehole	4	11	—
14.12.49	No. 3 Borehole	—	13	3
21.12.49	No. 3 Borehole	0	3	—
21.12.49	No. 1 Borehole	1	3	—
30.12.49	No. 1 Borehole	—	—	—
30.12.49	Well	—	—	—
Bratton Road U.D. Source.				
9.3.49	Pumping Station	7	8	—
30.6.49	do.	7	90	5
8.9.49	do.	48	160	3
13.9.49	do.	118	180 +	—
13.9.49	Tap on rising main	54	180	—
22.11.49	Pumping Station	1	50	—
Bitham—Private Supply.				
9.3.49	Collecting Chamber	1	11	—
30.6.49	do.	4	50	3
5.7.49	do.	1	35	5
31.8.49	House Tap	—	90	8
22.11.49	House Tap 31, Church Street	5	90	—
Masonic Supply.				
30.6.49	Overflow Pipe	1	—	—
31.8.49	do.	—	3	—
22.11.49	do.	2	—	—
(b) Treated Water.				
9.3.49	House Tap—The Crescent	—	—	—
30.6.49	Tap—Laverton Institute	1	—	—
30.6.49	Reservoir	1	—	—
25.8.49	Tap Laverton Institute	—	—	—
31.8.49	House Tap	—	—	—
22.11.49	House Tap—Bratton Road	—	—	—
22.11.49	Laverton Institute Tap	—	—	—
19.12.49	Tap Laverton Institute	1	—	—

Chemical Analysis.

Laverton Institute.

Physical Characters—Excellent.

						<i>Parts per</i>	100,000
						30.6.49	25.8.49
Chemical Reaction	Alkaline p.H.	..	..	..	..	7.2	7.3
Saline and free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Organic (or "Albuminoid) Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	0.001
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two	hours at 27°C	..	..	..	..	0.003	0.001
Chlorides	..	..	..	..	..	1.3	1.4
Nitrogenas nitrates	..	..	..	..	..	0.8	0.1
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	24.7	22.0
(a) Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	16.8	17.0
(b) Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	7.9	5.0
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Nitrites	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1949

SEWERAGE.

The Sewage Works were inspected during August by The County Sanitary Inspector who reported to the County Public Health and Housing Committees that these works were in good sanitary condition and producing an effluent which appeared physically satisfactory.

The Analyst reported "This is a very satisfactory effluent."

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

An analysis of the sanitary work for the year is appended.

RATS AND MICE.

The Rodent Officer, whose services are shared by the Warminster Urban District and Warminster & Westbury Rural District, visited dwellings, factories and farms in the district. Attention was also given to the sewers and refuse tip.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Housing.

8 Houses inspected for defects under the Housing and Public Health Acts.
12 Number of Inspections for such purpose.

Defects.

6 Houses rendered fit by informal action.
Nil Demolition Orders.
Nil Closing Orders.

Factory Acts.

1 Inspection made *re* fire escapes for factories.
36 Certificates issued for unsound food voluntarily surrendered, comprising wet fish, meat, canned fish, milk and fruits.
5 Licences granted for milk and Ice Cream.

